

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00
DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03 SS-15
NSC-05 PA-01 ICA-11 /066 W
-----127895 131418Z /44

P 122221Z JUL 78

FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 926

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR PE

SUBJ: CIVAIR: US/PERU NEGOTIATIONS

REF: (A) LIMA 5879, (B) STATE 172883

1. IN EFFORT TO PROBE GOP NEGOTIATING POSITION FOR FLEXIBILITY
ACTING CHIEF ECON/COMM SECTION JULY 10 MET WITH JULIO VEGA,
COUNSELOR, PERUVIAN EMBASSY, WASHINGTON, AND MEMBERS OF GOP CIVAIR
NEGOTIATING TEAM. VEGA HAS REMAINED IN LIMA FOLLOWING JUNE 28-
JULY 6 NEGOTIATING SESSION TO TAKE PART IN FOREIGN MINISTRY
ASSESSMENT OF NEGOTIATING PROGRESS.

2. ACCORDING TO VEGA HE HAS INFORMED HIS FOREIGN MINISTRY
SUPERIORS THAT ONE CAUSE OF LACK OF SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS IN NEGO-
TIATIONS HAS BEEN LEGALISTIC POSITION ESPOUSED BY TRANSPORT
MINISTRY LAWYER LEON DE VIVERO. VEGA CLAIMED THAT LEON DE VIVERO
AS WELL AS AEROPERU OFFICIALS BURNEO AND CORBETTO ARE DISPLAYING
SAME PROTECTIONIST ATTITUDES WHICH CHARACTERIZED THEIR PARTICIPA-
TION IN 1975 NEGOTIATION. WHILE VEGA DID NOT HOLD OUT ANY HOPE
THAT THESE MEMBERS OF PERUVIAN DELEGATION COULD BE REPLACED, HE
SAID THAT FOREIGN MINISTRY WOULD ATTEMPT TO DRAFT LANGUAGE FOR
A CIVAIR AGREEMENT THAT WOULD MOVE NEGOTIATIONS FORWARD FROM
CURRENT STALLED STATUS.

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3. VEGA STATED THAT IN HIS VIEW, DESPITE APPARENT GULF SEPARAT-
ING U.S. AND PERUVIAN POSITIONS, PROBLEM WAS MORE ONE OF FORM
THAN OF SUBSTANCE. IF LANGUAGE COULD BE WORKED OUT THAT OVER-
COMES THE APPEARANCE OF GOVERNMENTS BEING SUBORDINATE TO AIRLINES
IN QUESTIONS OF SCHEDULING AND FREQUENCIES, GOP WOULD PROBABLY
MOVE CLOSER TO U.S. PROPOSALS. VEGA, HOWEVER, ADMITTED THAT IMPASSE

IS DUE AS MUCH TO AEROPERU'S PERCEPTION OF ITSELF AS LAMB
NEXT TO BRANIFF'S WOLF AS TO GOP'S LEGALISTIC INTERPRETATION OF
1946 AGREEMENT AND 1966 AGREEMENTS. IN THIS REGARD VEGA CLAIMED

HE HAD TRIED UNSUCCESSFULLY TO CONVINCE AEROPERU OFFICIALS THAT
BRANIFF HAS NO INTENTION OF RUNNING AEROPERU OUT OF BUSINESS.
MOREOVER, VEGA STATED, HE HAD TRIED TO CONVINCE GOP NEGOTIATORS
THAT USG POLICY HAD BEEN FORMED INDEPENDENT OF BRANIFF POLICY
AND THAT ALTHOUGH BRANIFF SUPPORTS THE US POSITION IN THIS
NEGOTIATION IT HAD VERY LITTLE INPUT INTO THE US POLICY
FORMULATION.

4. AMBASSADOR HAS ASKED FOR APPOINTMENTS WITH THE
FOREIGN MINISTER, AIR MINISTER AND TRANSPORT-COMMUNICA-
TIONS MINISTER IN ORDER TO PURSUE THESE QUESTIONS. THE
DEPARTMENT FOR ITS PART MAY WISH TO KEEP IN CONTACT WITH
VEGA AFTER HIS RETURN TO WASHINGTON. HE SEEMS TO HAVE
TAKEN AN ACTIVE AND CONSTRUCTIVE INTEREST IN THE
PROBLEM, ALTHOUGH WE THINK HE TENDS TO UNDERESTIMATE
THE STRENGTH OF PROTECTIONIST SENTIMENT IN THE GOP.

DECON 7/12/79. SHLAUDEMAN

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CIVIL AVIATION, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978LIMA06173
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780287-0285
Format: TEL
From: LIMA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780770/aaaacgqj.tel
Line Count: 84
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: d3674977-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 LIMA 5879, 78 STATE 172883
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2040187
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CIVAIR: US/PERU NEGOTIATIONS
TAGS: EAIR, PE, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/d3674977-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014